

REMARKS

Claims 20-24, 32-35, and 37 are pending. By this Amendment, Claims 33, 34, and 37 are amended, Claim 32 is cancelled, and Claim 40 is added, thereby leaving Claims 20-24 and 35 unchanged.

Claims 32 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,276,675 ("Pioch"). Claim 37 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pioch in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,317,947 ("Dickey et al.").

Examiner has withdrawn allowance of some of the claims previously indicated as allowable. Applicant respectfully submits that all the claims previously indicated as allowable are believed to be allowable in view of the references of record. Nevertheless, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 20-24, 34, and 35 and has amended the claims as set forth below.

By this Amendment, Applicant has cancelled rejected independent Claim 32 and has amended objected to Claim 34 into independent form to include the limitations of its base claim (Claim 32) and any intervening claims (none). Applicant notes that the Examiner had previously objected dependent Claim 34, in the Office action mailed December 9, 2004, as being dependent upon a rejected base claim (Claim 32) and would be allowable if amended to include all the limitations of the base claim (Claim 32) and any intervening claims (none). Accordingly, Applicant has amended Claim 34 to include the limitations of Claim 32 as it stood upon the mailing of the December 9, 2004 Office action and not as it stood in Applicant's Amendment B filed on April 6, 2005. Therefore, independent Claim 34 is allowable. Claims 33 and 37 have been amended to change their dependency to Claim 34 and dependent Claim 40 has been added to depend from independent claim 34. Accordingly, Claims 33, 35, 37, and 40 depend from independent claim 34 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

In view of the present amendments, Applicant has cancelled the rejected subject matter from the application and has placed the application in a condition for allowance.

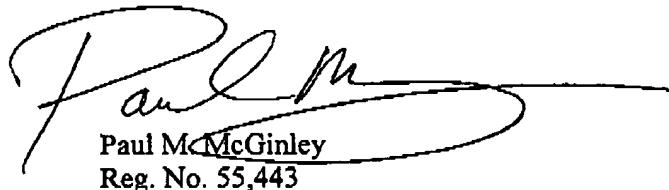
Applicant respectfully believes claims previously indicated as allowable and other claims are allowable over the references of record and reserves the right to prosecute these and other claims in one or more continuation patent applications.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present Amendment C and allowance of Claims 20-24, 33-35, 37, and 40 are respectfully requested.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,



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